

A NEW POT DESIGN FOR TUBEROUS *DROSERA*

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Drosera peltata, a tuberous sundew, can be cultivated in common greenhouse pots, but in the wild this and other tuberous *Drosera* may send shoots for tuber production further underground than most pots can accommodate. A pot about 30 cm (1 ft) deep is relatively easy to construct and can be used to more closely mimic the depth available at natural sites by providing greater depth for a particular pot diameter. The pots can be assembled cheaply and easily.

Materials Needed: 30 cm (1 ft) length of 8.8 cm diameter (3.5 in) PVC pipe, fiberglass window screen mesh, clear acrylic plastic sheeting, adhesive such as quick gel superglue (although silicone sealer can also be used), roll of duct tape, and a hacksaw with a fine-toothed blade.

Cut several V-shaped notches approximately 1-2 cm tall around the bottom of the PVC pipe using a hack saw to provide for better drainage when the pot is assembled. Next, cut a square, circular, or diamond-shaped piece of wire mesh that can easily be wrapped across the bottom of the pipe. A diamond-shaped piece is best as this shape most easily wraps around the bottom of the pipe. Using duct tape secure the wire mesh in



Figure 1: Top view of a constructed tall pot with a nearly dormant *Drosera peltata*.

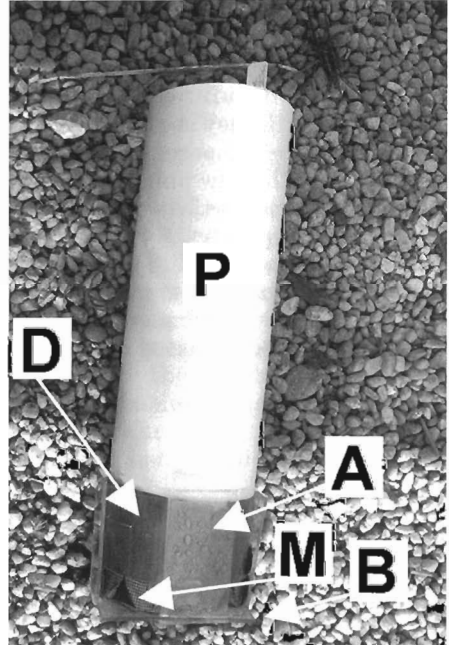


Figure 2: View showing parts of the pot. **P:** PVC pipe; **A:** acrylic base side; **B:** acrylic base bottom; **M:** wire mesh covering drainage slit; **D:** duct tape securing the wire mesh.

place by wrapping a few layers of tape around both the mesh and the pipe. For the pots we have produced, humidity and direct contact with moisture have not affected the adhesive properties of the tape).

Again using the hack saw, cut a 9 cm (3.5 in) square piece of clear acrylic. Place the pipe on top of the square and mark the edge of the pipe on the acrylic sheet using a marker. Then cut four 7.5 cm × 3.8 cm (3 × 1.5 in) rectangles of acrylic, and using the superglue, attach these smaller pieces to the square piece of acrylic where the edge of the pipe was marked. Apply pressure while drying, which should only take a few minutes. The pipe should then fit snugly into the acrylic base and will be held in place by the four side pieces. A wider base may be used to ensure greater stability; in this case glue the four side pieces of acrylic sheet to the top of the acrylic base rather than to the cut sides of the base. The pot is now ready to be filled with an appropriate soil mixture and for planting.

SPECIAL REVIEW: ICPS WORLD CONFERENCE 2000 VIDEO

Reviewed by STEFAN P. WOLF (www.karnivoren.com)



The ICPS held its 2000 conference of the ICPS in San Francisco, USA. This was the third big event of this kind and the list of speakers was the who-is-who of top experts in the field of carnivorous plants.

Video expert Siegfried Hartmeyer produced this 110 minute recording which I can recommend without reservation! It captures well the incredible charm of the meeting and I envy all those who—unlike me—were able to attend.

The introductory part begins with some local impressions: a ride with one of the world-famous cable cars on the steep San Francisco streets, a look at the legendary prison island of Alcatraz, and short views of the city and of Fort Mason Center.

The rest of the video consists of selections from speakers' presentations. Long segments are devoted to presentations by Andreas Wistuba, Christopher K. Frazier, Robert Cantley, Jan Schlauer, Heiko Rischer, and Barry Meyers-Rice. In an absolute highlight, with thirty minutes shown, Ch'ien Lee from Malaysia captivates the audience with his talk on recent *Nepenthes* discoveries. It is no wonder that Ch'ien won so many categories in the conference's photo contest!

In the following section we now see some short sequences of various lectures by Katsuhiko Kondo, Charles Clarke, Douglas Darnowski, Robert Gibson, Teresa Golembiewski, Madeleine Groves, Herbert Kesler, Laurent Legendre, Hawkeye Rondeau, and a presentation by Siggie Hartmeyer on his new multimedia CD-ROM.

The video is interspersed with segments showing the large plant sale and the (envy! envy!) huge buffet banquet, as well as very funny scenes of Barry Meyers-Rice talking about diverse topics such as *Darlingtonia*, a brilliant discussion about the historical details of how the Venus Flytrap got its name, and even a somewhat X-rated slide show of carnivorous plants!

The tape leaves me with impatient anticipation for the next international meeting, which after these impressions, I simply have to attend.

The tape is available in various videotape formats (PAL, NTSC) compatible with machines in various countries. The video costs approximately US\$35, depending on shipping. Interested people should contact Siegfried Hartmeyer at S.Hartmeyer@t-online.de (email) or Wittlinger Str. 5, 79576 Weil am Rhein, Germany.